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ABSTRACT: A purchasing company registers selling companies with which she does not want to trade in a setting management unit, and a selling company registers purchasing companies with which she does not want to trade in the setting management unit. The registration information is stored in a selling company/purchasing company table. An electronic catalog is made public only to purchasing companies with which the selling company permits trade. A transaction unit makes an estimate request received from a purchasing company public only to selling companies with which the purchasing company permits trade.

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Summary of Invention Paragraph - BSTX: [0015] It is an object of the present invention to provide an electronic purchase system that provides a place where a plurality of sellers and/or a plurality of purchasers can interact and where a seller can restrict his/her purchasers or a purchaser can restrict his/her sellers. It is another object to modify the selling price of a commodity for each purchaser in the electronic purchase system described above.

Brief Description of Drawings Paragraph - DRTX: [0041] FIG. 19 is a flowchart showing the operation of a network central system to provide the service of modifying a selling price based on a trade amount .

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX: [0084] The selling company 20 adds, modifies or deletes the sales-related information using this guidance screen (for example, executes an interactive process with the network central system 30) For example, if a purchasing company presenting a selling price, etc., is added, such a company is designated and the selling price, a delivery time, etc., are inputted. If the sales-related information is modified, the selling price, delivery time, etc., set for the purchasing company are modified. Furthermore, if the presentation of the selling

price, etc., of a specific purchasing company is cancelled, the purchasing company is designated and the selling price, delivery time, etc., are deleted.

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX: [0087] FIG. 11A shows an example of a record extracted in step S15. FIG. 11B shows an example of a case where a purchasing company to which the sales-related information should be made public, is added. In this example, a "purchasing company K104 is added. FIG. 11C shows an example of a case where a selling price in the sales-related information is modified. In this example, the selling price presented to a purchasing company K103 is modified from "105 yen" to "100 yen". FIG. 11D shows a case where a purchasing company to which the sales-related information is offered is deleted. In this example, a "purchasing company K103" is deleted.

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX: [0114] FIG. 19 is a flowchart showing the operation of the network central system 30 for providing a service to automatically modifying a selling price based on a trade amount. It is assumed that the process represented by this flowchart is regularly (for example, once a month) executed by the setting management unit 32. The network central system 30 stores information about all trades using this electronic purchase system. FIG. 20 shows an example of a trade log table storing such information.

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX: [0121] In this embodiment, an amount to be discounted from a current trade price can be modified based on the trade amount calculated in step S45 or the discount amount can be adjusted in proportion to the trade amount. Alternatively, the amount to be discounted from the current trade price can be left constant, regardless of the trade amount calculated in step S45.